

Dr. Jane Henney,  
Commissioner, US FDA  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471  
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dr. Henney,

I recently read an article about the US FDA's refusal to ban the use of human antibiotics in the feed stock given to animals, in spite of any evidence to prove this a safe and effective way to protect humans, or animals, from disease and sickness.

As a consumer, and one who eats meat as much as the next person, I am concerned that the FDA has little concern for my health and well being when it comes to the safe treatment of my foods.

Because of the increased use of human antibiotics in animal feed, resistance to bacteria in animal meats has decreased, and there has been a remarkable increase in the incidences of outbreaks such as Salmonella in humans. At the same time, countries in the European Community have taken much safer and cautious steps to ensure the health and well being of their various countries' citizens. In 1997 the WHO recommended the end of all antibiotics used for human health in animal feed.

Dr. Henney, isn't it time the United States and the FDA begin to catch up to the rest of the world on this important issue. Instead I am afraid that instead of caring for the health and well-being of our citizenry, the FDA maintains a policy which favors large pharmaceutical manufacturers over the rest of us who have neither the money nor the political clout to influence policy on this issue.

I demand that, as the Director of FDA, you make this concern of primary importance during your tenure at FDA, and do all you can to stop the use or addition of human antibiotics in animal feed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Saul Robbins', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

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